

Proposed Floodplain Management Ordinance

October 17, 2016

Lise Soukup

City of Rockville

Environmental Management Division,

Department of Public Works



City of
Rockville
Get Into It



What's a Floodplain?

The land near rivers, lakes or tidal waters that is inundated by the 100-year flood event.

Effective Floodplain Management

- Keep development and fill out of the floodplain
- Design features built in the floodplain to withstand flooding with minimal damage.
- Owners get flood insurance for their structures at risk of flooding



National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

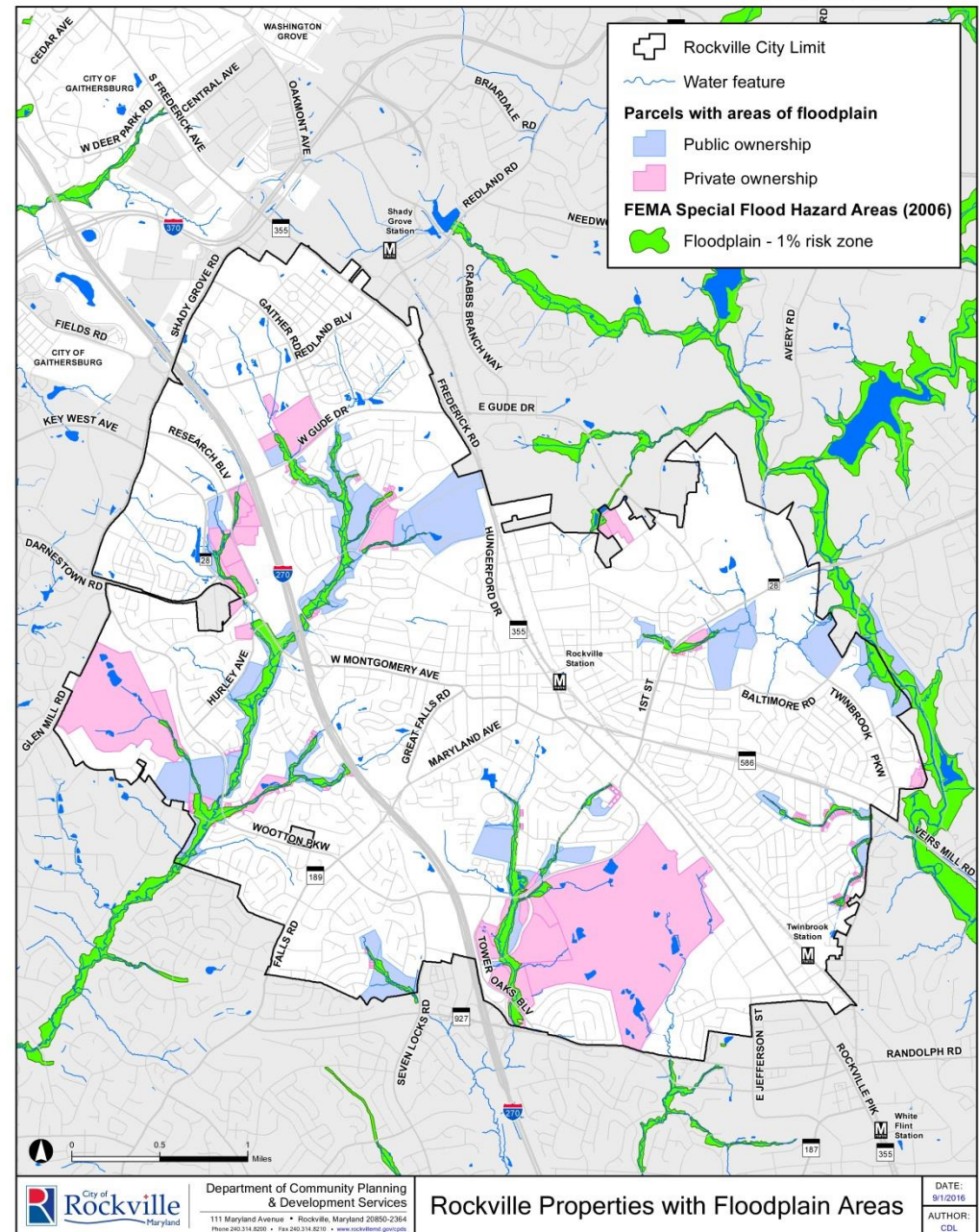
- Federal regulatory program administered by FEMA and Maryland Department of Environment. Rockville joined the NFIP in 1978.
- Offers affordable flood insurance to owners and renters
- Sets minimum requirements for local communities to regulate development for more effective floodplain management and track changes in the floodplain
- In 2014, FEMA directed the City to update its 1992 ordinance and regulatory process to be consistent with current federal regulations.
- If Rockville does not complete these updates, the City may be suspended from the NFIP.



Get Into It

Floodplain Impacts in City

- 246 parcels
 - 160 private parcels (mostly single-family lots)
 - 86 public parcels (mostly parks and open space)
- 16 structures in floodplain
 - 6 houses/commercial buildings
 - 4 garages
 - 6 sheds or other roofed structures





Floodplain Management Ordinance Changes

- Two-part approval process for developing in floodplain
- More tracking and documentation of floodplain construction
- No exemptions for minor construction in floodplain or public projects. These will require a simplified floodplain permit.



Floodplain Management Ordinance

Proposed Schedule

Public comment period	October 17 – December 5
Public Hearing	November 21
Discussion and Instruction	January 9, 2017
Adoption consideration	January 23
Proposed effective date and start of new regulatory process	July 1, 2017



Staff Recommendations

- Introduce the ordinance (Attachment A)
- Schedule a public hearing for November 21, 2016

Questions and Information

- Lise Soukup, Principal Environmental Engineer
Lsoukup@rockvillemd.gov, 240-314-8874
- See City Website for more information and helpful links on Floodplain Management
www.rockvillemd.gov/floodplain